

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 ERDA-07 COME-00 DODE-00 EPA-04 INR-07

IO-13 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15

OES-06 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 DOTE-00 FMC-02 CG-00

DLOS-09 AF-08 ARA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02 /166 W

-----051229Z 066055 /12

R 051150Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2356

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 05599

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, ENRG, PORG, IMCO

SUBJ: US MARINE POLLUTION INITIATIVES IN IMCO.

SCHEDULING AND FINANCE

REF: LONDON 5124

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH UK DEPT. OF TRADE OFFICIALS AND IMCO SEC GEN SRIVASTAVA RE PROPOSED US INITIATIVES ON MARINE POLLUTION REPORTED REFTEL, EMBASSY HAD DISCUSSED SCHEDULING AND FINANCE OF A SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND PREPARATORY MEETINGS WITH IMCO ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR LANDY AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT DIVISION DIRECTOR SASAMURA. IN ADDITION, JAPANESE EMBASSY IMCO REP INQUIRED ABOUT TIMING AND SCENARIO OF US INITIATIVES.

2. LANDY, IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY ABOUT PROBABLE COST TO IMCO OF A THREE WEEK CONFERENCE LATE IN 1977 OR EARLY IN 1978, SAID THAT 3 WEEK CIVIL LIABILITY CONFERENCE HELD IN CUNARD HOTEL IN NOV. 1976 HAD COST IMCO \$160,000. WITH UK INFLATION RUNNING OVERALL AT 15 PERCENT, BUT HIGHER FOR HOTEL SPACE, HE ESTIMATED \$185-195,000 FOR THE

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PROPOSED CONFERENCE. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CONFERENCE AND DOCUMENTATION STAFF WERE ALREADY STRETCHED TO THEIR VERY LIMITS BY THE PRESENT IMCO MEETING SCHEDULE AND THAT ANY MAJOR NEW CONFERENCE WOULD REQUIRE ADEQUATE LEAD TIME AND CAREFUL PLANNING. AN INFORMAL CHECK OF THE CUNARD HOTEL, WHICH IS USED BY IMCO BECAUSE ITS CONFERENCE FACILITIES COST ABOUT HALF THAT CHARGED BY MORE

CENTRAL LONDON HOTELS FOR SIMILAR FACILITIES, INDICATED THAT THE CONFERENCE FACILITIES WERE ONLY AVAILABLE FOR PART OF THE TIME DURING THE NOV. 28 TO DEC. 16 PERIOD SUGGESTED BY THE UK FOR THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE. THE MAIN HALL IS BOOKED FOR NOV. 28, DEC. 3, 4; 9, 10, 11; AND 14, 15 AND 16.

3. SASAMURA WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF GETTING WORK UNDERWAY AND HOLDING A CONFERENCE AS EARLY AS THE UK WAS SUGGESTING, ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THE VALIDITY OF THE ARGUMENT THAT INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION OF THE US PROPOSALS SHOULD PARALLEL THE US DOMESTIC CONSIDERATION, PARTICULARLY SO THAT US CONGRESSIONAL DECISIONS DID NOT PRECLUDE MEANINGFUL INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION. HE DOUBTED THAT A JOINT MSC/MEPC MEETING JULY 18-22, FOLLOWING LESS THAN A MONTH AFTER THE JUNE MEPC MEETING, COULD FORMULATE A DOCUMENT AND AGENDA FOR NEGOTIATION AT A CONFERENCE IN DECEMBER. IT COULD, HOWEVER, SERVE AS A VISIBLE LAUNCHING FOR THE NEW US INITIATIVES. NORMAL PRACTICE WAS FOR DOCUMENTS FOR A MEETING TO BE DISTRIBUTED TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE AND FOR A CONFERENCE SIX MONTHS IN ADVANCE. HE SUGGESTED THAT A USEFUL PREPARATORY MEETING MIGHT BE HELD IN DECEMBER MAKING USE OF THE MEPC AND MSC MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR DEC. 5-9 AND 12-16, RESPECTIVELY. ALTERNATIVELY THEY COULD BE SCHEDULED AS A TWO-WEEK JOINT MEETING OR AS A PREPARATORY CONFERENCE. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE SPECIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01
CIAE-00 ERDA-07 COME-00 DODE-00 EPA-04 INR-07
IO-13 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15
OES-06 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 DOTE-00 FMC-02 CG-00
DLOS-09 AF-08 ARA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02 /166 W

-----051228Z 066005 /11-12

R 051150Z APR 77
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CONFERENCE ITSELF COULD BE SCHEDULED IN THE TIME PRESENT-
LY ALLOTTED IN THE SPRING OF 1978 FOR THE SEARCH AND RES-
CUE CONFERENCE.

4. IN LINE WITH THE ABOVE SUGGESTIONS, SASAMURA COUNSELS
AGAINST MOVING UP THE SCHEDULE OF THE STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING CONFERENCE FROM THE FALL OF
1978, PARTICULARLY IF THE US HAS THE INTENTION OF TRYING
TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE OF TIGHTER STANDARDS THAN ALREADY
CONTEMPLATED.

5. JAPANESE EMBASSY IMCO REP IWATA CALLED TO REQUEST
ANY FURTHER DETAILS OF WHEN US WOULD LAUNCH ITS INITIA-
TIVES, IN PARTICULAR HOW MUCH WOULD BE DONE AT THE APRIL
MSC MEETING SINCE THE JAPANESE DESIRED THE PROPER COM-
POSITION FOR THEIR DELEGATION. HE WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN
THAT THE US WAS CONTEMPLATING THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE
BEING HELD IN LATE 1977 OR EARLY 1978 SINCE HE HAD UNDER-
STOOD FROM TOKYO THAT DESPITE PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATE-
MENT ON THE CONFERENCE, THE US DID NOT EXPECT THE CONFER-
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ENCE TO BE SCHEDULED BEFORE THE FALL OF 1978. WE INFORMED
HIM THAT THE US WAS STILL STUDYING HOW TO LAUNCH ITS
MARINE POLLUTION PROPOSALS AND THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH
OTHER DELEGATIONS DURING THE MSC WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT
PART OF THE PROCESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WATER POLLUTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, OIL SPILLS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON05599
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Line Count: 159
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 3b21efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LONDON 5124
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2895553
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US MARINE POLLUTION INITIATIVES IN IMCO. SCHEDULING AND FINANCE
TAGS: EWWT, ENRG, PORG, US, UK, IMCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b21efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009